



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

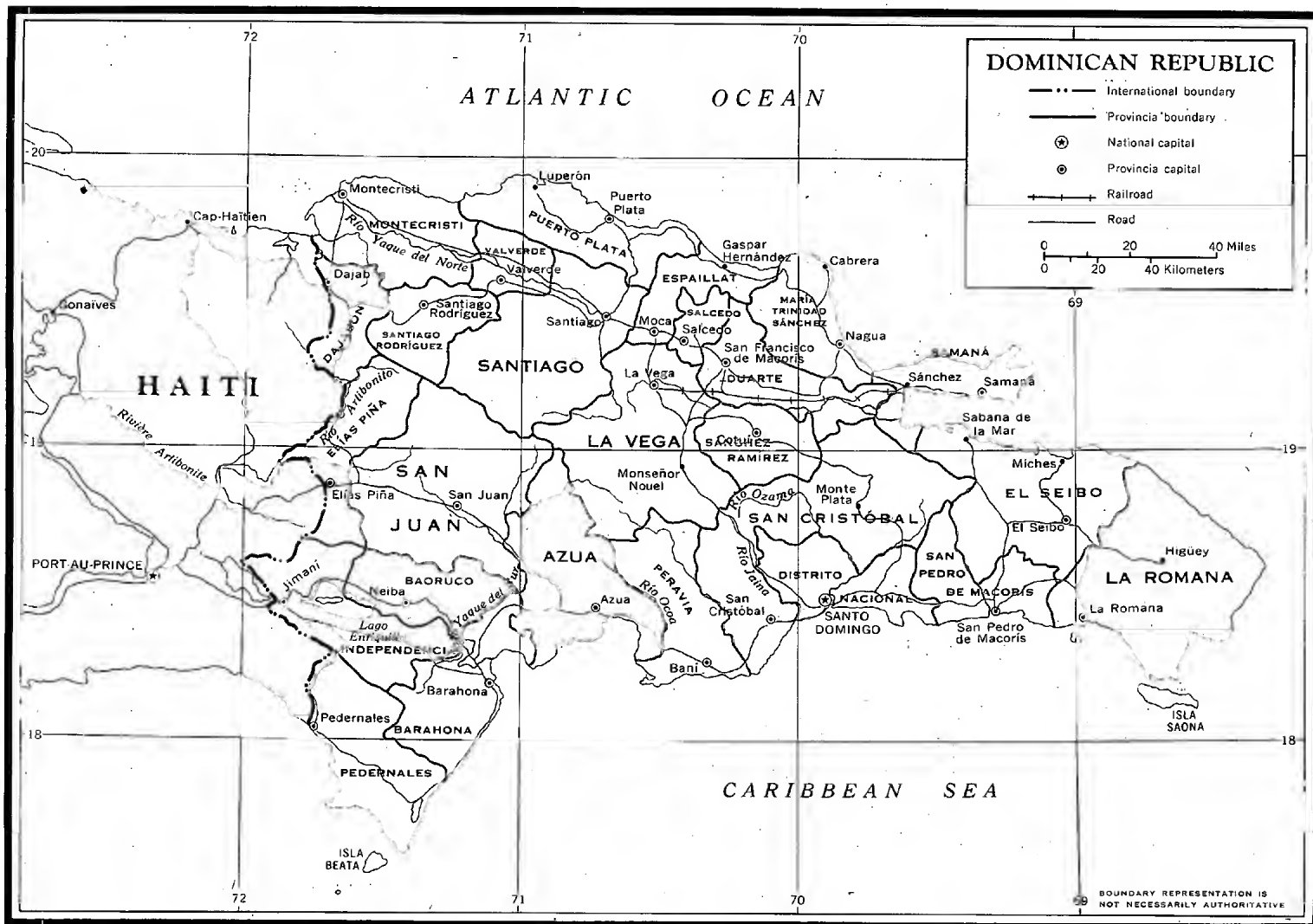


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26 APRIL 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
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LATE ITEM
(Information as of 1700 EDT)

Dominican Republic

Forces supporting former president Bosch will probably gain the upper hand unless a compromise military junta is formed quickly. A Bosch government would probably include a segment of the military along with a variety of leftists, including a well-organized clique of pro-Communists.

The military forces are split over the return of Bosch, exiled in September 1963 and now in Puerto Rico. Their differences are creating a vacuum being filled by leftists, ranging from radical members of Bosch's Dominican Revolutionary Party to members of pro-Castroite parties and the local Communist party.

The provisional presidency has been assumed by Jose Molina Urena. He has announced a partial "cabinet" and chosen a pro-Communist attorney general.

The anti-Bosch forces, led by General Wessin y Wessin and air force chief General de los Santos have been unable to dislodge the rebels from the national palace, but may make another try, with support from the navy. The Communists continue setting up strong points throughout the capital. The next few hours will be critical.

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1. Vietnam

No significant new Communist political or military developments have been reported.

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2. South Vietnam

Quat is still working on plans for reshaping the military command structure and making some cabinet changes.

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The cabinet changes may be fairly extensive.

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Such shakeups in the past have disrupted pacification programs.

3. Cambodia

The demonstration against the US Embassy in Phnom Penh today was probably meant to emphasize Sihanouk's recent statements opposing US and South Vietnamese attendance at a "Cambodian conference." Planning for the government-sponsored demonstration was apparently under way before Secretary Rusk's statement yesterday reached Phnom Penh.

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4. Yemen

Premier Numan has assembled a new republican cabinet of Yemeni nationalists who are largely anti-Egyptian. Nasir, with about 50,000 troops still in Yemen, could almost certainly have vetoed such a government. The fact that he did not raises questions of Egyptian motives which are unanswerable at present.

The most optimistic speculation is that Nasir now genuinely wants a moderate government that can help arrange a settlement of the war and make possible Egyptian disengagement. At the other pole is the possibility that Nasir wants to give the nationalists enough rope to hang themselves, then install another pro-Egyptian puppet government.

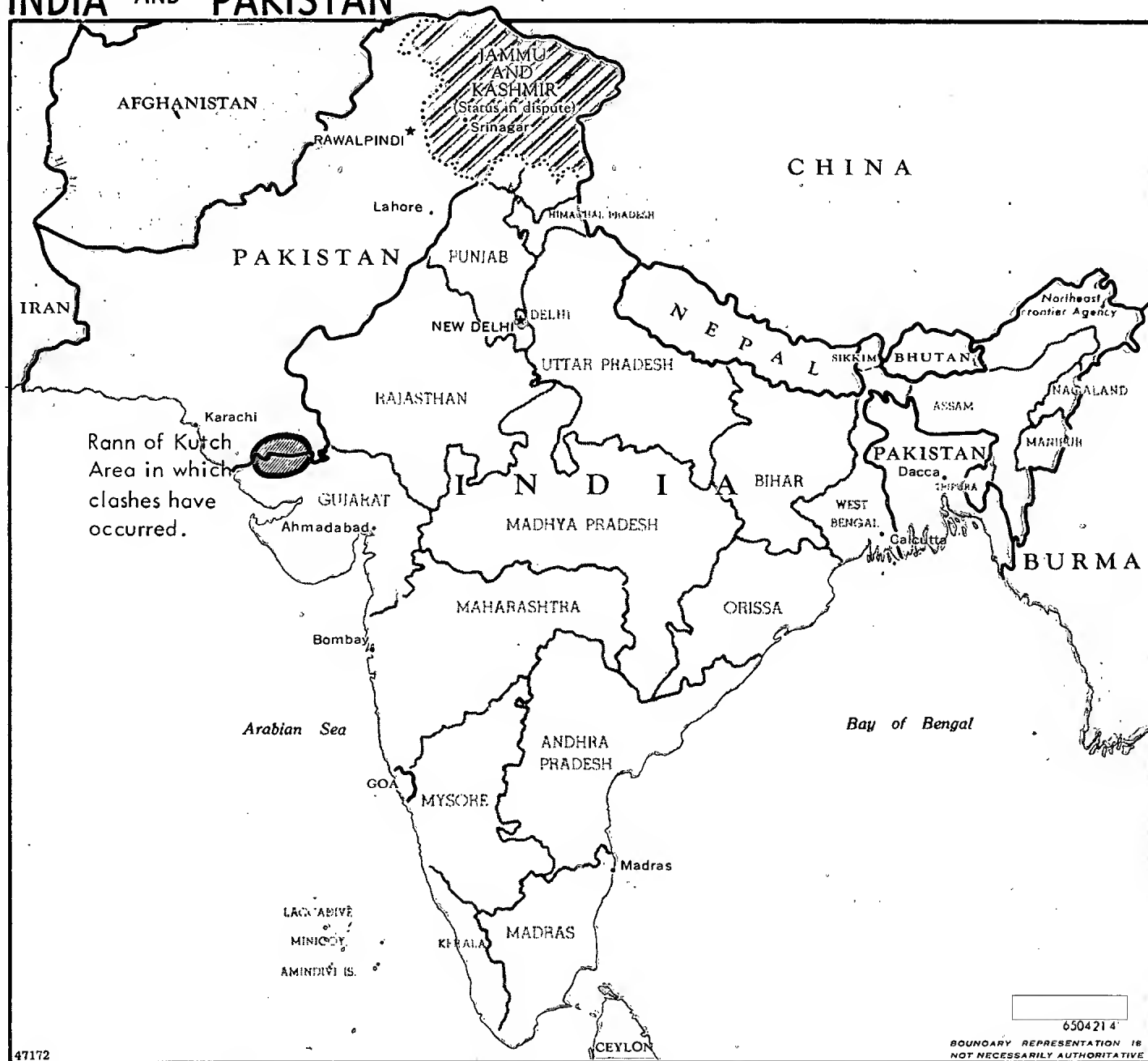
5. Turkey

It appears that the Turks now intend to expel few, if any, Greek nationals. Despite what Prime Minister Urguplu has called a Turkish "groundswell" of anti-Greek feeling, sentiment favoring any large-scale expulsion is fading. Former prime minister Inonu is said to have advised Urguplu to hold off because of the bad effect expulsion would have on world opinion.

6. USSR

Soviet economic performance continued sluggish during the first quarter of 1965. A claimed nine-percent increase in industrial production resulted mostly from the recovery of the processed food industry, which had an exceptionally bad first quarter last year. The growth rate of heavy industry continued to decline, and light industrial manufacturing repeated last year's poor performance. The rate of increase in machine-building output, including production of military hardware, is less than one half the rates claimed as late as 1960-62, and now stands at the lowest figure since the Korean war years, 1951-52.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN



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7. India

Fighting is continuing in the Kutch marshes.

As yet there is no sign that it will spread, and there is no evidence of new troop deployments to the area. The Indians, however, are making so much of the affair that it suggests they may be setting the stage for retaliation over more favorable terrain elsewhere along the border. Such a move would play into the hands of the Pakistanis, giving substance to their claims about the threat they face from India.

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